

and he'll tell the exact truth." It's a fine thing for a boy to have a reputation like that in the community in which he lives.

At another time the pupils in Harry's room had met to select some one of their number to present a certain request to the principal of the school, and Harry was immediately chosen, "because he is so sort of gentlemanly," as one of the boys said. This was a tribute to the unfailing power and influence of real courtesy; and true courtesy is a marked trait of Christian character.

Harry is a Christian in a boyish way, which is quite as charming and impressing as the grandmotherly way of being a Christian. All Christianity is based on right thinking and right living, without regard to age. Each decade of life has its own particular joys in the Christian life. They are all God-given, and none are sweeter than the joys of true Christian boyhood.

## Sisters' Society C. E.

From the President

*Dear Workers of the Endeavor Society:*—Early Friday morning I arrived at Sterling for the Zion Hill church, and was taken to the home of brother Reuben Steiner, where grandmother Kratz lives. She is eighty-five years old, erect as a girl of sixteen and almost as active, the only noticeable infirmity being poor eye sight. Her memory is remarkable. She played and sang a dozen or more of the hymns her memory still retains. Her time is her own and we expect to have her become an active member in our newly organized S. S. C. E. of that place.

Because of the busy season we had no appointment until Sunday morning, but the time was spent in the homes of the members, interesting them in the Sisters' Society.

Their Sunday school was well attended, but it is a union school, and it was found more difficult to introduce the brick plan, yet withal we can look for them to do their part. After the morning work of explaining the purpose of the society, and after the sisters had time to consider it in the afternoon, they came together ready to organize before the evening services. At first they felt it useless to try to have a Sisters' Society because of the scattered membership and the busy farm life nearly all are leading, but the duty of supporting the general work appealed to them and they yielded to an organization. Tho the society starts with but fifteen members, they are such, as we believe, will labor together with God, when success must follow.

The Zion Hill church, under Bro. Keifer's pastorate, represents quite a variety of former religious beliefs; a number have come from the Mennonite people, some even from the Amish, others from the Lutherans, Church of God, etc., but they are strong in the Brethren faith. Some of us who have always enjoyed Gospel freedom fail to appreciate it as these people do. Children's day services, morning and night, in adjoining churches caused our audience to be rather small, yet

not too small to give the largest offering for the cause that has been taken up at any of the churches yet visited.

At Fair Haven, the next stopping place, they were too far in the midst of wheat harvesting to reap much good for the S. S. C. E. This society is on record as being always prompt with its semi annual remittance.

Thru brother J. D. Miller's kindness I had the pleasure of driving from Fair Haven to Ashland, a distance of twelve miles, and when within three miles of the city I had my first view of the college building. I am not disappointed in the place, the buildings are larger and finer than the mental picture I have been entertaining. How much more beautiful must be the buildings and ground in the fall, when adorned with a host of happy students—happy because conscious of the fact that they are developing in mind and heart, becoming trained workmen for the white harvest field.

Here is where I'd like to spend some months in Bible study. Brother, sister, you will be richer after exchanging your money for Christian education. I don't say this because of my present surroundings, it is truth.

It is time for this letter to go to press, but there is much, oh, so much more I'd like to say in behalf of the institutions represented here. Since these words are only suggestive, kind reader, will you not fold the paper for half an hour and continue this subject in your own mind.

VIANNA DETWILER.

Ashland, Ohio.

## Our Young People

### A Lost Day

How many tasks I planned at dawn!

I said, When this fair day is gone,

And I sit down at eventide,

To count the work my hands have done

Between the rise and set of sun

I shall be fully satisfied.

Straightway I wove a web of dreams,

And hours slipped by like sunny streams

Unnoted in their rapid flight.

And when I roused myself at last

To act, I found the day was past,

And sunset fading into night.

Oh, foolish dreams! Oh, wasted day!

This, and this only, can I say—

Not one good deed my hands have done.

How much I might have done had I

But used the hours as they passed by,

But I have squandered every one!

God gives his day for us to use

To some good purpose. If we choose

To squander them how great our sin!

I shudder when I think he keeps

A record of them all, and weeps

To see the misspent ones therein.

Oh, ye who give to dreams God's hours,

A serpent lurks beneath the flowers

Of idle moods and weak delay.

Rouse! Make tomorrow's record fair.

Be this the angel's entry there,

"Today atones for yesterday!"

—Eben E. Rexford.

The only truly happy men I have ever known were Christians.—Randolph.

### A FRIEND IN NEED—Luke 10:30-37

Topic July 16.

The story of the good Samaritan is rightly famous because it teaches just the lesson that most people need to learn. Some one farther back in the history of the world than Solomon might have observed that the man with money to spend has many friends but these all vanish when the prodigal comes to feeding swine. Friendship may be true but it cannot be proven true until it is put to the test.

Christianity asserts its superiority in that it lifts men from the level of the standard of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" and teaches "if thine enemy hunger feed him, if he thirst give him drink." It gives a man that love for God and humanity which bears the cross when the need comes and gladly offers the cup of cold water or pours oil on the wound when opportunity affords. If any Christians fail in these things it is because they are neglecting and disobeying. The very badge by which the disciples of Jesus are to be known is this love for one another. We need to cultivate it. It is easy enough to talk nice in the meeting but the words we speak gain power only as we back them up by a pure life and a loving service as we seek to be helpful to everyone whom we may touch as we go thru life.

#### SCRIPTURE HELP

What a true friend will not do:

1. Forsake, Ps. 35:41.
2. Follow for gifts, Prov. 19:6.
3. Flatter, Prov. 27:14.

Characteristics of a true friend:

4. Loveth at all times, Prov. 17:17.
5. Reproveth when necessary, Prov. 27:6.
6. Gives good counsel, Prov. 27:9.
7. Inspires by fellowship, Prov. 27:17.
8. Sticketh closer than a brother, Prov. 18:24.

Ways of showing friendship:

9. By loyalty, Prov. 27:10.
10. By sacrifice, John 15:13, 14.
11. By helping the weak, Gal. 6:1.
12. Giving, Jas. 2:15, 16.
13. By ministering unto, Jas. 1:27; Matt. 25:37, 40.
14. Christians to be friends, John 15:15.

#### QUESTIONS

1. What is true friendship? How is it shown?
2. Mention some cases of need in which friendship often is or has been withheld.
3. Give an example from your knowledge of friendship shown in need.
4. Why must a true Christian be a true friend in need?
5. What can you say as to the best friend in need?
6. How is Christ our example as to a friend in need?
7. How were the apostles friends to the needy?
8. How can we encourage the spirit of unselfish friendship?
9. How did Jonathan prove a friend in need? 1 Sam. 20.
10. How was Dorcas a true friend? Acts 9.

C. F. YODER.

### Aids to Christian Growth

The Northwestern.

Every true Christian is a growing Christian. At every advanced point progress will be his watchword. However far advanced, he has not yet reached the limit of spiritual development. Whatever his past blessings, he longs for a still greater fullness of divine life. There is an unattained ideal still before him, ever expanding and brightening and heightening. Therefore, he will of necessity be a close student of best methods. He will welcome all helpful hints from the experience of others. He will strive to make his endeavors as fruitful as possible by noting the processes which have proved profitable to others.

Much may come thru hymns and spiritual